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Franklin Battlefield Stream Restored

Department of Environment and Conservation, City of Franklin, and Williamson County Government celebrate their first Harpeth River Watershed Initiative project.

Franklin, TN - Today, the Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), the City of Franklin, and Williamson County Government celebrated the completion of their first project under a partnership created last year. The Harpeth River Watershed Initiative (HRWI) is part of a Memorandum of Understanding between the three governmental entities that establishes a process for the identification and evaluation of projects that will impact the Harpeth River and its tributaries.

The Eastern Flank Battlefield Park was identified in 2007 as a viable project for the new initiative. With funds from the Tennessee Department of Transportation, TDEC led the Stream Restoration Project which has restored the historic creeks at the Eastern Flank Battlefield to their original state.

"Through a unique partnership with the city of Franklin, several historic architects and others, we were able to restore two highly degraded streams in the Harpeth River watershed," said Environment and Conservation Commissioner Jim Fyke. "The success of this stream restoration is the result of a shared commitment from all involved to preserve and protect Tennessee's rich history and natural resources."

"Today we celebrate the first of what I believe will be many joint projects between the State, the City, and the County," added Franklin Mayor John Schroer. "Restoring the creeks to their original state has accomplished two extremely significant goals. It aids in our preservation of this historic site and also helps to protect the Harpeth River Watershed. Protecting the Harpeth River and its tributaries is very important to this community and combining the resources of the various agencies will allow us to work together to accomplish that."

The Harpeth River Watershed Initiative is the first of its kind in Tennessee. Under the agreement, the staffs of the City, County, and TDEC meet quarterly to review, collect, and develop information concerning potential environmental projects that improve, remediate, or protect the Harpeth River Watershed. Projects are evaluated on a regional watershed basis as well as by individual tributary basis.



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Stream Restoration ProjectEastern Flank Battlefield Park

BEFORE AFTER



May 2007 - Lower pond before stream restoration

Photo by CEC



Nov 2008 - Carnton Creek after stream restoration work Photo by CEC